

REMARKS

In the Office Action that was mailed on July 29, 2003, claims 53-55 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shackelford et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,265,206) ("Shackelford"). The foregoing rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 53-55 and 58 are pending in the subject application, of which claims 53, 55, and 58 are independent claims.

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 53, 55, and 58 are amended herein to recite a list that stores a pointer that indicates a function that is executed after the message is sent. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter.

Support for the amendments to claims 53, 55, and 58 may be found in the Specification at page 181.

Rejections of the Claims:

Independent claim 53 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites "a list storing at least one pointer that indicates at least one function that is executed when the message is received." Independent claim 55 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites "a list storing at least one pointer that indicates at least one function that is executed when the other objects receive the message." Independent claim 58 of the subject application (as amended herein) recites "executing at least one function that is indicated by at least one pointer that is stored in a list."

Shackelford does not disclose or suggest executing a function that is indicated by a pointer in a list when one component notifies another component that a software event has occurred. Therefore, independent claims 53, 55, and 58 (as amended herein) are patentably distinguishable over Shackelford. Dependent claim 54 is allowable based in part on its dependency from patentably distinguishable independent claim 53.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

There being no further objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters. If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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